



Memo

To: Park Board
From: Park and Recreation Staff
Date: February 3, 2014
Subject: Monthly Update

Following are department highlights for January and early February for your review.

1. Kathy McPeck reported the following for Recreation/Events and Administration:

Fun and Fit at Columbus Gymnastic Center:

- a. January has been a bad month weather-wise. Many school cancellations and delays have affected our open gym numbers for the month. The days that we were open were well attended though. Open Gym attendance for January was:
 - Pre-school (including MOMS Club & MOPS program): 442
 - Thursday & Saturday Family Open Gym: 185
 - Ages 7-up: 69
- b. Friday Night Family Open Gym was well attended on Jan. 24. 48 children and parents enjoyed an evening of indoor fun, out of the snow and cold temperatures! The February Friday Night Family Open Gym will be held on Feb. 28 from 6:30-8pm. Cost is \$3 per child and all children must be accompanied by an adult.
- c. Birthday party rentals continue to go well! We hosted 17 parties in January and all our available times were booked. We only have 1 time left for February available to rent.
- d. With the cold and snow and days out of school, members of the Boys & Girls Club have visited us for some indoor exercise! A total of 175 club members have visited during January.
- e. The MOMS Club had a special open gym on Friday night, Jan. 17. A total of 22 children and parents attended! The Friday night open gym gives the dads a chance to visit and play with their children!
- f. Dance by Design rented the facility for a 90 minute practice for their cheer group on Jan. 17 from 3:30-5pm.
- g. We were also visited by St. Peter's JAM group for a special open gym on Jan. 10. 27 children and parents attended.
- h. Spring Session 1 of classes will begin on Monday, Feb. 17. Several children are already registered for this session.
- i. We will have a visit from the Little Lambs program at Sandy Hook Church on February 4.
- j. Columbus Christian Church pre-school will visit our facility on Feb. 17th and 18th!
- k. Children participating in the Boys & Girls' Club Fun for Youth night will visit as part of the evening's activities on Feb. 7.

Recreation – Events/Program/Teens:

- a. The January 18th Columbus Bluegrass Jamboree was cancelled due to inclement weather. The next concert is scheduled for March 29 at 4:00pm at Donner Center.
- b. The first Community Cast-A-Ways garage sale for 2014 will be held on Saturday, Feb. 8th from 9am-1pm at Donner Center. Cost is \$26 per booth space.
- c. The 4th annual "American Girl Doll Day" will be held on Sunday, Feb. 9th from 1:00-4:00pm. We have a full registration! Activities for the "Winter Wonderland" will include making snowflake bracelets, snowman picture frames, fleece scarves, snow globes and more!

- d. The annual "Mad Scientists!" family science night will be held on Friday, Feb. 21 from 6:30-8pm at Donner Center. Cost is \$1 per person and all children must be accompanied by an adult. A variety of hands-on science experiments will be featured.
- e. We hosted one of the themed Donner birthday parties on Sunday, Jan. 19th at Donner Center. "At the Beach" was the chosen theme with a twist of Sponge Bob also thrown in! The parents were very pleased and plan to have their other son's party with us in the spring with a different theme!
- f. Information/participant numbers for the 2013 annual report has been finalized and turned in! 2013 was a busy year in Recreation!
- g. The After Prom Committee met again on January 14 to continue planning this year's event. The prize committee just picked up their information and letters to send to businesses to ask for donations. We will be working with a group from Kohl's this year on our mailings to the parents. They will be volunteering their time to stuff, seal and sort zip codes for approximately 1,600 letters for the first mailing on Feb. 10. There will be 2nd and 3rd mailings in March and April.
- h. Work continues on the information for recreation for the 2014-2015 Fun Guide. Some progress has been made!
- i. I met with a lady from Greensburg, representing the group Indiana Region Classic Car Club of America. They are planning to host a car show at Mill Race on July 27. They are expecting approximately 40+ cars to be in attendance.

2. Mark Jones reported the following for the Sports and Athletic Facility Team:

Programs/Tournaments:

- a. Spring Soccer registration has ended.
- b. Baseball registration continues.
- c. Adult Winter Volleyball has started.
- d. Adult Spring Volleyball registration continues.
- e. Batting Cage maintenance is underway.
- f. Working on start up for Batting Cage/Concessions.
- g. Finalizing 2014 tournament schedule.
- h. Working closely with BCSC on upcoming Baseball/Softball season.
- i. Working closely with Express Soccer on upcoming season.
- j. Working closely with Hamilton Center fundraising group.
- k. Working with Carleen (Hamilton Center Program Coordinator) on current and future programming.
- l. Finalizing Fun Guide information.

Athletic Facilities:

- a. Prep work progressing for upcoming spring sports.
- b. Indoor projects continue.
- c. Finalizing 2014 detailed budgets for each facility.
- d. Supplies are being inventoried and ordered.
- e. Athletic Facilities Team is doing a great job of keeping up with snow removal.

Hamilton Center:

- a. January was a great month! We continued with the extra sessions from 1-3:00 p.m. on the final Christmas break week. We also had our "princess tea skates" and had a wonderful turnout! These teas continue to be a big hit! Hamilton Center had a write up in the paper about them recently!
- b. For the month of January, we have had 10 birthday parties, with approximately 230 children in attendance. Our private rentals exceeded expectations with 3 school rentals, 1 church group, with over 300 participants.
- c. On January 4th, the Broomball association hosted their own Holiday Broomball Tourney, with over 155 participants from all over.
- d. The Lincoln Center FSC hosted their annual Columbus Invitational competition on January 19th. This year we had approximately 126 skaters from Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky, participate in an all-day event. This number is up from 76 last year. There were also

approximately 400 spectators for this event. This competition is for basic skills level skaters only, so it is a great opportunity to show off our rink to all the new competitive skaters in the area. They followed their competition with a Test Session January 20th, with 84 participants. All of our girls did a great job in both events!

- e. Our current session of group classes is in full swing, with approximately 147 skaters!!! We are in the middle of the ice show costume sign up and have approximately 58 skaters, so far, from group classes signed up for this year's show in April. Registration will continue through February 1st.

3. Casey Ritz reported for Park Operations:

- a. The Grounds Crew was one of several crews kept busy with snow removal. They also had a small window of time to work on flood clean-up from December. The crew is working on placing spring orders along with continually working on EAB.
- b. The Cleaning Crew has been reorganizing and taking inventory of the supplies on hand. They are working with me on ways to lower supply costs. The crew is still noticing a lot of residential trash being put into the park cans. Most of their time has been spent helping keep up with snow removal on sidewalks.
- c. The Maintenance Crew has been busy with snow removal in the parks as well as helping City Garage with streets. The crew also (like Grounds Crew) dealt with some flood repairs from December. They are also repairing the pool sign that is in front of the Donner Aquatic Center entrance.
- d. The Vehicle Maintenance Crew has started performing annual services to all of the equipment. They also have been doing a great job in helping us keep all the snow equipment up and running.
- e. The Donner Center Crew has taken down the Christmas decorations and stored them away until later this year. They also had several rentals and activities in the facility. The crew was a big help with snow removal and keeping the facility open as it was used as one of the warming locations for the City.
- f. The FFY Crew also helped with snow removal. They had several days with a few more kids at the facility due to school cancellations. The crew also dealt with a few repairs and maintenance items. They also are working on finishing up additional painting.
- g. The Commons Crew has also taken down Christmas decorations and stored them. They have replaced the plastic glides on all the chairs in the lobby and playground. The Commons saw several large events like the Bridal Show, Wine and Beer Fest, MLK Day Performance and the Grimm Concert. The crew also had over 40 conference rentals and performance space rentals. They also did a great job with snow removal as they were another facility that was a warming station.

4. April Williams' reported the following for Project, Resource Development:

Current projects:

- Continue working with the Hamilton Center Project Campaign Committee. Working with David Doup and Steve Risting to determine timeline and cash flow for projects.
- Continue to attend the Arts District Coalition Team and Urban Infrastructure Team Meetings as a committee member. Assisting Arts District Team by devising a public survey to determine gaps in providing community events. Survey is being reviewed by team to assure all current programs and potential programs are included in survey. Urban Infrastructure Team has proposed the downtown trail portion from Lafayette to Jonathan Moore Pike be considered a project for "urban development" due to the economic benefits of this connection.
- Continue to work with AmeriCorps member in implementing an "Adopt a Trail" Program to assist with maintenance of our People Trails. Also establishing "Adopt a Park" Program to assist in maintenance of Parks. Presented our first request for the Adopt A Trail Program to the IUPUC Student Government.
- Created survey for participants of Tour de Trails Event and Sneakers At Starlight Event to assist with determining possibilities for future growth/participation.

- Working with Carl Malysz to incorporate Bicentennial Trust Grant in Golden Foundry Site development.
- Working with Park Foundation subcommittee to plan PF Annual Community Meeting.
- Working with Park Foundation subcommittee to plan PF Tour de' Trails events to assist with People Trail maintenance costs.

Please see the attached "Year In Review" for the Columbus Park Foundation.

Please mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Columbus Park Foundation Annual Community Meeting on Wednesday, February 19th from 6-8:30 pm. Attached is the invitation.

Thank you for your service!

April Williams

c: Mayor Kristen Brown
Councilman Dascal Bunch
Jeff Logston
Parks & Recreation FT Employees



The Columbus Park Foundation

Filling the gap between what is provided in public funding and what is needed to grow and maintain quality of life features and amenities for the health and well-being of our community.

A Year in Review

A look at private funding for Capital Projects, Programs and Maintenance



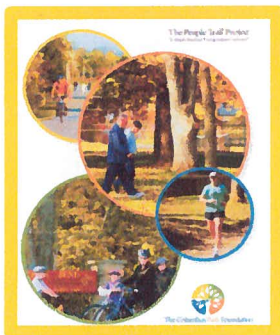
Race2Play ~ Four Park Improvements

May 2013

- \$474,325.00 in Private Funds/\$104,384.00 in Public Funds
- Grant Funding: \$50,000.00 * Acquisition of Additional Land
- \$5,000.00: Expansion of Come Out & Play Playground Program
- Volunteer Hours for Neighborhood Cleanups and Playground Installation
- Maintenance Funding: \$100,000.00

Revitalization of Four Parks: On May 8, 2013 the Columbus Community joined in a celebration and ribbon cuttings at four neighborhood parks. Celebrity visitors Tony Stewart, Jared Fogle, Carter Oosterhouse and Amy Smart created a momentum of excitement as residents and investors joined together to make their parks safer, more inviting and all-inclusive.

- 9th Street Improvements: Added, all-inclusive playground equipment, new surface, Security Camera, additional green space acquired *, new signage
- Mead Village: New all-inclusive playground, new surface, new bench, new shelter house, new signage
- Morningside: New all-inclusive playground, swing set, shelter house and add Come Out & Play Playground Program, new signage
- Pence Street: Refurbished playground and added all-inclusive equipment, new shelter house and basketball court, new signage
- \$100,000.00 in Maintenance Fund



People Trail Network ~ 18 Expansion Projects

- \$1,000,000.00 Committed in Private Funding in 2012
- Private Funding Collected: \$622,224.36 in 2012
- Private Funding Collected: \$258,121.67 in 2013 (Balance 12/2013: \$793,764.85)
- 2013 Private Funding through Cummins Marathon: \$40,000 Committed
- Federal TA Funding: \$150,000.00 in 2013

Tour de' Trails –Maintenance Funding (Balance 12/2013: \$30,182.94)

- \$15,584.14 ~ 2012 Event
- \$10,635.21~ 2013 Event

C Bike Racks – Maintenance (Sold 10. Profit = \$600) 10 remaining

Expansion Projects Completed/In Progress: Following a successful 2012 Campaign raising \$1 million dollars in private funding commitments to expand our People Trail Network, 2013 ended with great progress toward the 18 expansion projects. 10 of 18 projects were completed or are in process.

2013 ~ A Year in Review Cont'd

People Trail Network ~ 18 Expansion Projects Cont'd

Despite the challenge of a reduction in Federal Funds, Recreational Trails TA dollars were raised in 2013 and an unexpected private contribution of proceeds from the Cummins Marathon was gifted toward our People Trails Projects. 2014 has already started off with exciting news of a partnership with the County to rehab and relocate the historic Newbern Bridge. INDOT has committed to provided funding for the rehab and relocate and the Columbus Area Metropolitan Organization Board has accepted and committed funding toward the Downtown Trail & the Clifty Creek projects.



Tree Fund (Maintenance/Replacement)

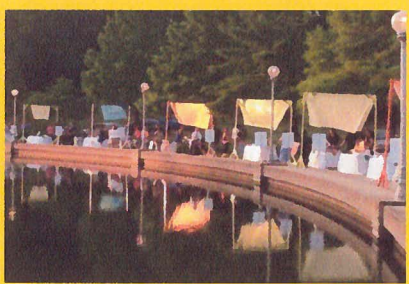
- \$10,000.00 contribution earmarked to replace our park inventory of trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer epidemic.
- \$5,103.50 Additional contributions for tree replacements and new additions
- \$2,799.44 Abitibi



Hamilton Center

- \$1,038,727.00 contributed in 2013 to preserve, restore and add features to increase revenue to a valuable and unique recreational asset and rental space for our community.
- \$227,000 in Private Funding has already improved boards and glass around the small and large rink.
- (Balance as of 12/13 \$713,190.85)

2nd Annual Sneakers Event



- 2012: \$13,773.00 earmarked to People Trails
- 2013: \$19,754.00 earmarked to Hamilton Project

The first of its kind, this unique event has grown in popularity in the short time of its existence. The unique location and example of excellent community collaboration makes for a continued growth potential. 2014's proceeds will be unrestricted and contribute to toward the growth of Parks, Park Programs and facilities.



1st Annual Festival of Light Christmas Village

- \$2,000.00 in Private Funding to underwrite event
 - 26 Participants contributed in-kind time & talents
- Parks & Recreation and the Park Foundation organized the first ever Christmas Village as a free community event, at the Commons, leading up to the Festival of Lights Parade. Despite the cancellation of the parade due to inclement weather, over 150 children participated in

interactive activities including a gingerbread village assembly led by Parks & Rec, Sweet Rose and BCSC. An estimated 1000 guests visited throughout the day. We believe this can become an annual event that will continue to grow in popularity.

2013 ~ A Year in Review Cont'd

Special Swim

- The ending balance for 2013 was \$2,320.31. Funds are raised to provide aquatic, therapeutic recreation for children with physical challenges. 2014 will be dedicated to increasing funding for our physically challenged population needs.
- 2012 Distributions were \$2,511.00
- 2013 Distributions were \$2,081.36

Skate Park

- Approximately \$5000.00 contributed annually to maintain and repair our Skate Park. (Balance as of 12/13 \$18,632.21.
- An upcoming Capital Campaign will be pursued to raise funds for replacement of our skate park as it has exceeded its lifespan and current conditions are not of the quality standards expected of our park amenities.

Chuck Wilt Scholarship

- The ending balance for 2013 was \$50,108.74. Funds are raised to underwrite the cost of Parks & Recreation Programs for children who have financial barriers that prohibit them from enjoying a P&R experience.
- 2012 Distributions: \$14,604.19 ~ 2012 Contributions: \$4,853.23
- 2013 Distributions: \$17,578.51 ~ 2013 Contributions: \$11,654.54

Endowment

- The ending balance for our 2013 was \$106,032.54.
- Our Board's goal is to increase opportunities for "planned giving" opportunities for our donors to contribute to the long-term sustainability of our Parks through the endowment.



The Generations Club

- 2014 will be dedicated to increasing perpetual, non-restricted donations through the Generations Club Membership.
- A \$70,000.00 non-restricted contribution was made in January 2014.



Adopt A Trail & Race2Play

- In 2013 the Park Foundation teamed up with Americorp and employed Dick Boyce as our Volunteer Coordinator. Dick's concentration is to create and implement our Adopt a Trail & Adopt a Park Program as a way to assist P & R in reducing maintenance costs associated with trail and park clean-up.
- Brad Stroia was extremely instrumental in the coordination of volunteers for the Race2play initiative. This project took such

extensive man power that the Fuel Systems Plant closed operations for a day and was one of Cummins' largest volunteer efforts. Over 100 volunteers contributed time and talents to install 2 playgrounds as well as neighborhood and park clean-ups in four parks in the months leading up to the May 2013 ribbon cutting. In 2014 Brad was given the title of Worldwide CR leader for Cummins Fuel Systems, an opportunity offered to him as a result of the Race2Play success. Brad's goal it to take Cummins to the next level in Corporate Responsibility and Community Involvement. He will be working with Dick in implementing the Race2play clean-ups and Adopt A Trail Program.



2nd Annual Community Meeting
A Year in Review & Vision 2014

Wednesday, February 19th

6:00 ~ 8:30 pm

Hamilton Community Center & Ice Arena
Hors d'oeuvres Reception

Keynote Speaker:

John Seibert - Valparaiso Director of Parks & Recreation
"The Hidden Economic Benefits of Our Parks System"

Award Presentation:

The Race2play Initiative
Brad Stroia - Senior Technical Advisor Cummins Fuel Systems

Please RSVP to awilliams@columbus.in.gov
or by calling 376-2680

